

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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63

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
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O P 111910Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3398

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

CONFIDENTIAL LISBON 3933

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, PINT, PO

SUBJ: SOARES RESIGNATION LETTER TO PRESIDENT

1. SOCIALIST PARTY SOURCE JULY 11 PASSED TO DCM TEXT OF MARIO SOARES'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES. IN THREE PAGE LETTER DATED JULY 10 SOARES, IN VERY STRONG TERMS, TOLD PRESIDENT WHY HE QUIT GOP. THUS FAR, LETTER IS BEING HELD IN CONFIDENCE. WE EXPECT, HOWEVER, THAT SOCIALISTS WILL PUBLISH IT WHEN THEY THINK IT TO THEIR ADVANTAGE.

2. IN RESIGNATION LETTER SOARES REVIEWED HISTORY OF THE "REPÚBLICA" CASE, POINTING OUT THAT IT WAS NOT A LABOR DISPUTE "AS THE ENEMIES OF FREEDOM WANTED TO DEMONSTRATE." SOARES NOTED THAT THE PRESIDENT PERSONALLY AS WELL AS THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL ALL STATED THAT THE PROBLEM WOULD BE RESOLVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE PAPER'S MANAGEMENT. THIS "SOLEMN DECISION" OF THE REVOLUTIONARY

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COUNCIL WAS NOT FULFILLED. LETTER STATES: "IN THE FINAL

ANALYSIS, WHO RUNS THIS COUNTRY, SINCE THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT, CANNOT MANAGE TO MAKE ITSELF OBEYED NOR HAVE ITS DECISIONS RESPECTED?" DRAWING PARALLEL WITH RADIO RENASCENCA CASE, LETTER GOES ON TO STATE THAT MATTERS HAVE GONE TOO FAR, AND THAT REPUBLICA CASE IS ONLY PART OF A BROADER CONTEXT OF "A GENERAL CRISIS OF AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT, CORRODED BY DEMAGOGY, BY IRRESPONSIBILITY, AND BY ANARCHO-POPULISM." LETTER CONCLUDES BY ASSERTING THAT "IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE, THE WILL EXPRESSED BY THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE IS DAILY DISREGARDED...FOR MY PART I CANNOT CONTINUE TO BELONG TO A GOVERNMENT WHICH DOES NOT GOVERN AND WHICH EVERY DAY, IN PRACTICE, ABDICATES ITS RESPONSIBILITIES...IT WAS NOT FOR THIS THAT THE PEOPLE GAVE AN UNMISTAKABLE MANDATE TO THE SOCIALIST PARTY...BELIEVE ME, MR. PRESIDENT, I UNDERSTAND WELL YOUR ANGUISH AND YOUR PERSONAL DRAMA. BUT THERE ALWAYS COMES A MOMENT IN WHICH IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE THE COURAGE TO SAY (BEGIN UNDERLINE) ENOUGH (END UNDERLINE)..."

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 11 JUL 1975  
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**TAGS:** PDEV, PINT, PO, (SOARES, MARIO)  
**To:** STATE  
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